

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

Please enter the following amendments to the claims:

1. (Original) A method for inhibiting reading of an optical disc, comprising the following steps:

(a) providing an optical disc comprising machine-readable, information-encoding features, and a reading-inhibit agent, said inhibit agent activated by optical radiation and operative, once activated, to alter the disc to inhibit reading and to provide a short effective life for the disc;

(b) providing a reading device operative to read the disc, said reading device comprising a source of optical radiation; and

(c) reading the disc with the source while concurrently activating the inhibit agent with optical radiation from the source.

2. (Original) A method for inhibiting reading of an optical disc, said method comprising the following steps:

(a) providing an optical disc comprising:

machine-readable, information-encoding features;

a barrier layer releasably coupled to the disc, said barrier layer

configured to prevent machine reading of the features; and,

a reading-inhibit agent, included in the disc and activated by removal of the barrier layer, said reading-inhibit agent operative, once activated, to initially allow reading of the disc, and then to alter the disc to inhibit reading of the disc; then

(b) removing the barrier layer to allow machine reading of the features and to activate the reading inhibit agent; then,

(c) reading the disc after removal of the barrier layer but before the disc is altered by

the reading inhibit agent to inhibit reading of the disc; and then,

(d) said reading-inhibit agent then altering the disc to provide a short effective life for the disc.

3. (Original) The invention of claim 2 wherein the disc comprises a first surface, wherein the features are adjacent the first surface, wherein the inhibit agent is adjacent the features: and wherein the barrier layer is adjacent the inhibit agent.

4. (Original) The invention of claim 2 wherein the disc comprises a translucent layer operative to transmit a beam of light toward the features, wherein the inhibit agent is incorporated in or adjacent to the translucent layer, and wherein the barrier layer comprises a sheet adjacent the translucent layer.

5. (Original) The invention of claim 2 wherein the disc comprises a reflective film, and wherein the inhibit agent comprises a corrosion-enhancing agent disposed in or adjacent to the reflective film.

6. (Original) The invention of claim 2 wherein the inhibit agent is operative, once activated, to alter a physical dimension of the disc.

Claims 7-19 are canceled.

20. (New) The optically readable medium according to claim 60, wherein said reading-inhibit agent is located in the path of the incident optical read beam.

21. (New) The optically-readable medium according to claim 60, wherein said reading-inhibit agent is selected from one of an oxidizable material, a dye, a hygroscopic material, a photoreactive material, or a combination thereof.

Claims 22-24 are canceled.

25. (New) The optically-readable medium according to claim 60, wherein said reading-

inhibit agent inhibits reading of the at least a portion of said information encoded features by one of absorbing light from the optical beam, altering the reflectivity of the reflective layer, or physically distorting or altering a portion of the optically-readable medium.

Claims 26-32 are canceled.

33. (New) The optically-readable medium according to claim 60, wherein said reading-inhibit agent is activated by optical radiation.

Claims 34-37 are canceled.

38. (New) The optically-readable medium according to claim 60, wherein said short effective life for said optically-readable medium is determined by the number of times the at least a portion of the information encoded features is read by the optical beam.

39. (New) The optically-readable medium according to claim 60, wherein said reading-inhibit agent corrodes the at least a portion of the information encoded features.

40. (New) The optically-readable medium according to claim 60, wherein said reading-inhibit agent, once activated, increases optical scattering of the at least a portion of the information encoded features.

41. (New) The optically-readable medium according to claim 60, wherein said reading-inhibit agent, once activated, inhibits reading by the optical beam by promoting deterioration of the at least a portion of the information encoded features.

42. (New) The optically-readable medium according to claim 60, wherein said reading-inhibit agent, once activated, interferes with the optical beam.

Claims 43-58 are canceled.

59. (New) An optically-readable medium comprising:
an information encoded region, said information encoded region readable by an optical beam from a reading device;

at least one reading-inhibit agent in communication with at least one of a portion of said information encoded region and the optical beam, wherein said at least one reading-inhibit agent inhibits reading of at least a portion of said information encoded region by the optical beam after a predetermined period of time after removal of an enclosure; and

the enclosure enclosing said optically-readable medium wherein said at least one reading-inhibit agent provides a short effective life for said optically-readable medium.

60. (New) An optically-readable medium, comprising:

at least one substrate having information encoded features with a reflective layer to reflect an incident optical read beam so that the optical read beam may read the information encoded features; and

a reading-inhibit agent included in the optically-readable medium that, once operative, prevents at least a portion of the information encoded features from being read by the incident optical read beam wherein said reading-inhibit agent provides a short effective life for said optically-readable medium.

Claim 61 is canceled.

62. (New) The optically-readable medium according to claim 59, wherein said reading-inhibit agent is selected from one of an oxidizable material, a dye, a hygroscopic material, a photoreactive material, or a combination thereof.

63. (New) The optically-readable medium according to claim 59, wherein said reading-inhibit agent inhibits reading of the at least a portion of said information encoded features by one of absorbing light from the optical beam, altering the reflectivity of the reflective layer, or physically altering a portion of the optically-readable medium.